



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.7708 | FAX (517) 373.1450

www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/gilbert/

For Immediate Release
August 5, 2004

Contact: Scott Starr
517-373-7708

Sen. Gilbert's litter reporting program passes as part of broad recycling package

LANSING – Legislation that implements recommendations of the Beverage Container and Recycling Task Force was passed by the Senate Wednesday, said Sen. Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac.

The package targets ways to improve Michigan's 20-percent recycling rate.

The bills establish an anti-litter hotline and create a new littering disincentive program to keep Michigan forests and fields clear of trash and refuse.

Gilbert's Senate Bill 858 allows data to be collected from the state's Adopt-a-Park program to evaluate Michigan's litter problem.

"Everyone in Michigan needs to do their part to keep our state clean and preserve our resources," Gilbert said. "Recycling is a great and easy way to protect our environment, and we are working hard to encourage and promote it."

The recycling package aims to increase the level of recycling statewide. Michigan lags many other Great Lakes states in recycling. Key parts of the package would:

- Allow for a new source of funding to help local recycling centers;
- Stimulate market development for recyclables;
- Provide for a comprehensive litter study and anti-litter marketing campaign;
- Expand current adopt-a-resource programs to allow for reporting on litter; and
- Establish short- and long-term recycling goals for the state.

The package heads to the House of Representatives for consideration.

###